

Claims

1. A sphagnum cultivation base comprising a shape-imparted, aggregated mass of dried sphagnum and one or more units of live sphagnum, each of said unit(s) is a bunch of live sphagnum whose stems are bunched, the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum being in contact with the bunched stems of live sphagnum, a growth point of the live sphagnum being substantially exposed outside the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum, and the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum being maintained under condition that permit contact with water of a water basin.

2. The sphagnum cultivation base as described in claim 1, wherein the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum is given a shape by a binder component containing at least paper fiber.

3. The sphagnum cultivation base as described in claim 1 or 2, wherein the shape-imparted, aggregated mass of dried sphagnum has a depression, one or more unit(s) of the bunched stems of live sphagnum are inserted into the depression under compressed condition, and a growth point of the live sphagnum is substantially exposed from the depression of the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum.

4. The sphagnum cultivation base as described in claim 1 or 2, wherein the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum is given a shape by being fitted into a depression provided in a support.

5. The sphagnum cultivation base as described in claim

4, wherein the depression provided in the support is a through hole that penetrates the support.

6. The sphagnum cultivation base as described in claim 4 or 5, wherein the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum is substantially exposed at the bottom of the cultivation base.

7. A sphagnum cultivation system comprising a sphagnum cultivation base as described in any of claims 1 through 6, in which, while maintaining a growth point of a live sphagnum plant at a point above the water surface of the water basin, wetting the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum by bringing the mass into contact with the water of the water basin, and supplying the water that permeates the aggregated mass to wet the dried sphagnum to live sphagnum, to thereby nurture the live sphagnum.

8. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in claim 7, wherein the contact between the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum and the water of the water basin is achieved by installation of the sphagnum cultivation base in the water basin.

9. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in claim 7, wherein the contact between the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum and the water of the water basin is achieved by means of a mechanism which permits the sphagnum cultivation base to be placed above the bottom of the water basin.

10. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in claim 7, wherein the contact between the aggregated mass of

dried sphagnum and the water of the water basin is achieved by means of a mechanism making use of a buoyant force to thereby float the sphagnum cultivation base in the vicinity of water surface.

11. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in any of claims 7 to 10, further comprising a flat and/or curved surface which extends substantially continuously from the opening, on the live sphagnum side, of a depression provided in an aggregated mass of dried sphagnum or a depression provided in a support, wherein live sphagnum is propagated on the flat and/or curved surface.

12. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in claim 11, wherein the flat and/or curved surface which extends substantially continuously from the opening, on the live sphagnum side, of the depression provided in the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum or the depression provided in the support is provided with a mechanism for feeding soaking water thereto.

13. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in claim 12, wherein the mechanism for feeding soaking water to the flat and/or curved surface is a through-hole which connects upper and bottom surfaces of a member defining the flat and/or curved surface and in which a water-absorbent material is packed.

14. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in claim 13, wherein the water-absorbent material is an aggregated mass of dried sphagnum.

15. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in any of claims 11 through 14, wherein the inclination of the flat and/or curved surface which extends substantially continuously from the opening, on the live sphagnum side, of the depression provided in the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum or the depression provided in the support falls within a range of -90° to $+10^{\circ}$ with respect to the horizontal plane of the opening.

16. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in claim 15, wherein the inclination of the flat and/or curved surface which extends substantially continuously from the opening, on the live sphagnum side, of the depression provided in the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum or the depression provided in the support is substantially 0° with respect to the horizontal plane of the opening.

17. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in any of claims 11 through 16, wherein the flat and/or curved surface which extends substantially continuously from the opening is a flat and/or curved surface which can be added later on.

18. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in claim 17, comprising an addition component for providing the later add-on flat and/or curved surface, wherein the addition component is fixed, in a contacting manner, to an outer extension of the member defining the flat and/or curved surface, to thereby add said later add-on flat and/or curved surface.

19. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in claim 18, wherein the addition component for providing the later add-on flat and/or curved surface has a through-hole which connects upper and bottom surfaces and in which is a water-absorbent material is packed.

20. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in any of claims 11 through 19, wherein a surface of the flat and/or curved surface which extends substantially continuously from the opening, on the live sphagnum side, of the depression provided in the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum or the depression provided in the support is formed by a material which contains substantially no nutrients for organisms.

21. The sphagnum cultivation system as described in any of claims 11 through 20, wherein the surface of the flat and/or curved surface which extends substantially continuously from the opening, on the live sphagnum side, of the depression provided in the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum or the depression provided in the support is formed by a water-impermeable material.

22. An addition component for providing an add-on flat and/or curved surface which is used with a sphagnum cultivation system as described in claim 11, which component further provides an additional add-on flat and/or curved surface by being fixed, in a contacting manner, to an outer extension of a member defining a first flat and/or curved surface which extends substantially continuously from the opening, on the live sphagnum side, of a depression provided

in the aggregated mass of dried sphagnum or a depression provided in a support, whereby said additional add-on flat and/or curved surface forms a continuous flat and/or curved surface extending from the first flat and/or curved surface.

23. The addition component as described in claim 22, wherein the upper surface of the component that defines the flat and/or curved surface and the lower surface of the component are connected by a through-hole provided therein, and a water-absorbent material is packed in the through-hole.

24. The addition component as described in claim 23, wherein the water-absorbent material is an aggregated mass of dried sphagnum.